

### 3. STEPS TO TAKE WHILE WAITING FOR APPLICATIONS

When you have sent your RAM-form(s) or your letter(s), take the following steps:

- Register for and take the test(s) required by the schools. (Indicated in the Peterson's book but needs to be confirmed by the college(s) to which you are applying.)
- Check possibilities for financial aid.

#### Register for and take test(s)

Almost all colleges and universities require international students, whose native language is not English, to take an English language test, usually the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language). Some universities accept other language tests than the TOEFL. You should check this directly with the schools that you are applying to. For detailed information about the TOEFL and where and when you can take the test you can visit the TOEFL web site at <http://www.toefl.org>. For instructions on how to send for the TOEFL-bulletin from the Fulbright Commission, please see below.

Some colleges and universities also require international students to take the SAT I (Scholastic Assessment Test) and in some cases also one or more SAT II (Subject Tests). The SAT I is a multiple-choice test of one's ability to reason verbally and mathematically. The SAT II are tests of abilities developed in 22 subjects. You should check the entrance requirements for the universities to which you intend to apply to find out if you must take the SAT I and which, if any, SAT II subject tests you should take. In the SAT-bulletin you find the dates when the tests are given and a list of test centers in Sweden. The SAT is given six times a year. The first test in each academic year is usually given in October, and the last in June. There are no tests given between June and October. One cannot take both the SAT I and the SAT II on the same test date. Up-dated information about additional test centers can be found on the SAT web site: [http:// www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com).

(If you are planning to apply for athletic scholarships, you should register for the SAT I test, as all universities require the test of athletic scholarship applicants.)

Application forms for the TOEFL and the SAT can be requested from the Fulbright Commission. The application forms and information bulletins are free of charge. You pay only for the postage.

- For the TOEFL bulletin, send a self-addressed C4 envelope, stamped with postage for 250 g (=4 stamps or SEK 22:-) and write "TOEFL" on the envelope.
- For the SAT I bulletin, send a self-addressed C4 envelope, stamped with postage for 250 g (=4 stamps or SEK 22:-) and write "SAT I" on the envelope. (If you need both SAT I and II, mark the envelope with both tests and stamp it with postage for 500 g (=6 stamps or SEK 33:-)
- For both the TOEFL and SAT I bulletins, send a self-addressed C4 envelope, stamped with postage for 500 g (=6 stamps or SEK 33:-) and write "TOEFL and SAT I" on the envelope.
- If you need bulletins for all three tests, TOEFL, SAT I, and SAT II, send a self-addressed C4 envelope, stamped with postage for 1 kg (=8 stamps or SEK 44:-) and write "TOEFL, SAT I, and SAT II" on the envelope.

Some universities require the ACT (American College Testing). This test is given in Sweden a few times a year. Complete information on the ACT can be found at <http://www.act.org>

Your test scores are important and you should prepare for the tests. The Fulbright Commission has study guides for the ACT and SAT-tests for sale. Information on the material for sale is included when you send for the test bulletins.

#### Check possibilities for financial aid

You can apply for financial aid/scholarships both from American universities and from Swedish organizations. (The Fulbright Commission does not offer grants for undergraduate study, but only for graduate study or postdoctoral lecturing/research.)

#### Financial aid/scholarships from U.S. institutions

It is very difficult for foreign students to get financial aid from U.S. colleges and universities, as competition for scholarships is extreme. If you have an excellent school record or are good at a sport, you might be able to apply for financial aid/scholarships from the American institutions. Indicate your interest in financial assistance on the RAM-form, item 11, or in your letter.

#### Financial aid from Swedish institutions

For information on receiving Swedish *studiemedel* to help finance your studies in the United States, contact *Centrala Studiestödsnämnden* (CSN) in the following way:

Students born between day 1 and 15 of a month should contact the CSN office in Eskilstuna.  
Students born between day 16 and 31 of a month should contact the CSN office in Gothenburg.  
Students applying for health and pilot education, should contact the CSN Stockholm office.  
Use the same telephone number: 0771-276 000 for all inquiries. More information can be found on the CSN homepage at <http://www.csn.se>

#### Financial aid handbooks

Several handbooks on Swedish scholarships are available at bookstores, libraries, and at the Fulbright Commission. Listed below are a few books on Swedish grants:

- *Fonder & Stipendier i Sverige*, by K. Dahlberg (Svensk Stipendieförmedling)
- *Kulturfonder i Sverige*, 9th edition, by Kurt Lehsmann and Wilhelm Odelberg (Norstedts, 1999)
- *Stipendieguiden*, by P. Eckner and K. Gullström (Skandinavisk Stipendieinformation)
- *Stipendiehandbok för kvinnor*, by Gunilla Carstensen (Brombergs, 1994)
- *Stora Fondboken*, by Lars Hellman (Stöd & Stipendier i Stockholm)